

1874-75

R.M.H.S. RESOURCE CENTER
READING, MASS.



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
OF THE
TOWN OF READING,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1875,

WITH THE
REPORTS OF THE TOWN CLERK, TREASURER, AND COLLECTOR,
SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, AND OVERSEERS OF POOR, SCHOOL
COMMITTEE, ROAD COMMISSIONERS, ENGINEERS OF
FIRE DEPARTMENT, TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC
LIBRARY, TRUSTEES OF CEMETERY,
TRUSTEES OF SINKING FUND,
AND AUDITORS.

BOSTON:
FRANKLIN PRESS: RAND, AVERY, & Co.,
117 FRANKLIN STREET.
1875.

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TOWN OFFICERS, 1874-75.

— ♦ —
Town Clerk.

WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN.

Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.

JAMES REID.

J. B. LEATHE.

J. L. PRATT.

Treasurer and Collector.

JAMES A. BANCROFT.

School Committee.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT, <i>Chairman</i>	Term expires 1875.
HIRAM BARRUS	" " 1876.
WALTER S. PARKER	" " 1877.
OLON BANCROFT	" " 1875.
WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN, <i>Secretary</i>	" " 1875.

Road Commissioners.

JAMES A. BANCROFT, <i>Chairman</i>	Term expires 1875.
CHARLES A. WESTON	" " 1876.
HENRY S. LA CLAIR	" " 1877.

Board of Health.

F. F. BROWN, M.D.

JOHN B. LEWIS.

T. LITTLEFIELD.

WILLIAM E. APPLETON.

J. S. TEMPLE.

Engineers of Fire Department.

CHARLES H. LANG, *Chief*.

E. C. NICHOLS.

DAVID CROWELL.

HUBBARD E. COX.

CHARLES H. DANFORTH, *Clerk*.

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

DANIEL B. LOVEJOY.

Constables.

H. E. COX.

WILLIAM L. CROWE.

Police Officers.

H. E. COX.

WILLIAM L. CROWE.

JOHN A. BLUNT.

JOSEPH W. SPOKESFIELD.

EDWIN BASSETT.

Trustees of Public Library.

EDWARD APPLETON, <i>President</i>	Term expires 1875.
F. O. DEWEY	" " 1875.
HIRAM BARRUS	" " 1876.
WILLIAM PROCTOR	" " 1876.
STEPHEN FOSTER	" " 1877.
F. H. KNIGHT, <i>Clerk</i>	" " 1877.

Trustees of Cemetery.

F. O. DEWEY	Term expires 1875.
G. C. GLEASON	" " 1875.
F. H. KNIGHT	" " 1876.
T. B. PRATT	" " 1877.
WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON	" " 1877.
OLON BANCROFT, <i>Treasurer</i>	" " 1876.

Auditors.

N. P. PRATT.

WILLIAM PROCTOR.

WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

EXPENSES OF SCHOOLS.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Paid Cyrus A. Cole, principal	\$1,800 00	
Miss Martha Keith, assistant	700 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of rooms	86 00	
for fuel	132 16	
	<hr/>	\$2,768 16

FIRST GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Lena T. Wood, principal.	\$1,000 00	
Miss Jennie R. Barrus, assistant	300 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of rooms	86 00	
for fuel	132 16	
	<hr/>	1,568 16

SECOND GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Paid Miss A. M. Knight, principal	\$600 00	
Miss Addie B. Howes, assistant	300 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of rooms	97 00	
for fuel	53 40	
	<hr/>	1,100 40

UNION STREET SCHOOLS.

UPPER MEDIUM.

Paid Miss Frances E. Mihan	\$500 00	
Miss Frances E. Mihan 1873-74	27 77	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of rooms	72 89	
for fuel	37 50	
	<hr/>	688 16
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>		<hr/>
		\$6,124 88

Amount brought forward,

\$6,124 88

LOWER MEDIUM.

Paid Miss E. S. Foster, for teaching	\$433 32	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of room	72 89	
for fuel	37 50	
	<hr/>	593 71

UPPER PRIMARY.

Paid Miss Sarah A. Sweetser, for teaching	\$450 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of room	72 89	
for fuel	22 27	
	<hr/>	595 16

LOWER PRIMARY.

Paid Miss Ruth L. Pratt, for teaching	\$440 00	
Miss L. M. Lovejoy, for teaching	40 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	50 00	
for care of room	72 92	
for fuel	21 45	
	<hr/>	624 37

WALNUT STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Sarah L. Stoodley, for teaching	\$433 28	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	25 00	
for care of room	48 00	
for fuel	52 63	
	<hr/>	558 81

WOBURN STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Helen M. Clark, for teaching	\$393 29	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	25 00	
for care of room	33 90	
for fuel	35 73	
	<hr/>	487 92

WOBURN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Paid Miss L. F. Loring, for teaching	\$300 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	25 00	
for care of room	25 00	
for fuel	17 87	
	<hr/>	367 87

Amount carried forward,

\$9,352 72

Amount brought forward,

\$9,352 72

LOWELL STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss L. B. Clark, for teaching	\$200 00	
Miss E. Barrows, for teaching	79 98	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	25 00	
for care of room	39 50	
for fuel	53 89	
		<hr/>
		398 37

MAIN STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Sarah J. Morse, for teaching	\$300 00	
Miss Florence Parker, for teaching	14 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	25 00	
for care of room	27 00	
for fuel	37 73	
		<hr/>
		403 73

HAVERHILL STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

Paid Miss Abbie Wakefield, for teaching	\$300 00	
H. G. Carey, for musical instruction	25 00	
for care of room	27 00	
for fuel	34 33	
		<hr/>
		386 33

\$10,541 15

Unexpended		769 83
Appropriation	\$11,000 00	
School fund	280 98	
Received for tuition	30 00	
		<hr/>

\$11,310 98 \$11,310 98

INCIDENTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Paid H. L. Cummings, for express for schools . . .	\$12 80	
A. C. Stocking, books for 1873	48 30	
Nichols and Hall " " "	12 31	
Lyceum Hall Association, for use of hall for Teachers' Convention	15 00	
John A. Blunt, for labor and stationery for Teachers' Convention	2 00	
J. C. Cook, for setting glass	3 90	
Barrows and Foote, for printing	1 00	
		<hr/>

Amount carried forward,

\$95 31

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$95 31
Paid Mrs. H. E. Cox, for refreshments for Teachers' Convention	15 00
George W. Dean, services at Teachers' Convention	5 00
Hatfield Hurd, for brick for Union Street school-house	21 60
Citizens Gas Light Co., for gas for high school	16 65
F. Harnden, for desk tops and labor on desks	85 12
J. C. Cook, for labor and materials on school-houses	96 40
Michael Forbes, for labor on Woburn Street school-yard	10 87
T. B. Pratt, for ladder and brooms	3 06
M. A. Hunt, for cleaning Lowell Street school-house	6 00
Mary Whelton, for cleaning primary schoolrooms	2 13
William H. Willis, for school-books	25 48
G. W. Atkinson, for mats, dusters, and sundries	13 09
Matthew Hanley, for furniture	6 00
Jeremiah Flint, for repairs on schoolhouses	51 45
E. F. Parker, for finishing desk tops	11 00
S. M. Hall, for repairs on schoolhouses	29 59
H. W. Batchelder, for repairs on schoolhouse yard	2 00
C. H. Lang, for express for schools	3 00
Charles Hitchcock, for setting glass	1 30
Edward Parker, for repairs on schoolhouses	11 00
F. Harnden, for repairs on desks	3 35
A. Mertens, for use of pump	2 00
F. J. Bancroft, for moving, repair, and use of piano	13 00
William Porter, for labor on Union Street school-houses and yards	27 93 ¹
Michael Forbes, for labor on Union Street school-house yards	12 43
Michael Forbes, for cleaning well for Woburn Street school	3 45
W. E. Beard, for clock for Main Street school	6 00
Michael Forbes, for labor	1 25
Nichols and Hall, for books	100 07
W. O. Haskell and Son, for furniture	39 00
W. M. Phillips, for lumber and labor on school-houses	80 34
Hiram Barrus, for ink	4 20
Benjamin Peabody, for repairing pump	3 25
Eugene De Jean, for stoves and fixtures	50 60

Amount carried forward,

\$857 92

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$857 92	
Paid W. H. Bancroft, for repairs on schoolhouses .	1 90	
Lyceum Hall Asso., for room for primary school .	10 00	
Lyceum Hall Association, for hall for high school exhibition, 1873	10 00	
Lyceum Hall Association, for hall for high school exhibition, 1874	10 00	
Bancroft and Temple, for lumber and labor . .	75 16	
J. L. Pratt, for setting glass Haverhill Street schoolhouse	1 20	
J. L. Hammet, for school bells	2 39	
T. B. Pratt, for axe, brooms, and brushes . .	4 27	
Parker and Stone, for steps, brooms, and sundries .	3 80	
W. H. Willis, books for schools	6 76	
G. W. Atkinson, for brooms and sundries . .	7 00	
J. N. Nichols, for repairs on Lowell Street school- house	4 37	
George Beasley, for removing brick	1 00	
T. Littlefield, for tin and iron ware	28 10	
Parker and Stone, for brush	1 25	
	<hr/>	\$1,025 12
Unexpended		474 88
		<hr/>
Appropriation	\$1,500 00	\$1,500 00

EXPENSES OF THE POOR AT THE ALMSHOUSE.

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Furniture	\$247 39
Beds and bedding	303 50
Provisions	114 37
Stoves and fixtures	92 50
Manure	75 00
Horse	250 00
Cow	60 00
Four swine	24 00
Two carts	135 00
Farm wagon	80 00
Light "	85 00
Stone "	20 00
Horse sled	25 00
Sleigh	8 00
Mowing machine	50 00
Farming utensils	203 08

Amount carried forward,

\$1,772 84

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$1,772 84
Wood and coal	297 00
Posts and lumber	15 00
Hay	132 50
Twenty-one fowls	15 75
Grain and meal	3 65
Produce	80 11
Bills due for labor, &c.	313 92
	<hr/> \$2,630 77
Inventory of 1874	\$2,771 29
Inventory of 1875	2,630 77
	<hr/>
Less than last year	\$140 52
Cash drawn for supplies	964 06
	<hr/> \$1,104 58
Deduct supplies for 1,402 tramps @ 50 cents	\$701 00
Old bills of 1866-68 considered worthless, and thrown out of inventory	332 30 1,033 30
	<hr/>
Net expense of poor in almshouse	\$71 28

NAMES AND AGES OF INMATES AT ALMSHOUSE.

	YEARS.
Widow John McIntire	78
Miss Caroline Wiley	68
Alpheus Austin	55
Horatio G. Brown	76
Benjamin Weston	74

Whole number inmates during year, 5.

Present number, 4.

EXPENSES AT ALMSHOUSE.

Paid for groceries	\$498 28
for flour and bread	173 26
for grain and meal	257 97
for provisions	416 05
for fish	34 62
for bedding and clothing	53 88
for furniture	22 03
for produce	17 34
for wood and coal	334 06
for stock	16 00
for wheelwright and blacksmith bills	49 63
	<hr/>

Amount carried forward,

\$1,873 12

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$1,873 12
Paid for hired labor	272 77
for medicine	19 43
for medical services of F. F. Brown	15 25
for repair of buildings	4 42
for farming tools	48 15
for sundries	15 40
for salary of keeper	500 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,748 54

CREDITS AT ALMSHOUSE.

By labor on highways	\$615 90
moving snow	12 00
labor for sundry persons	31 30
lighting street lamps	57 00
wood sold	383 24
horse sold	75 00
produce sold	23 82
boarding horse	22 00
boarding sundry persons	564 22
cash for supplies	964 06
	<hr/>
	\$2,748 54

EXPENSE OF POOR OUT OF ALMSHOUSE.

Paid for coal for family of Michael Daley	\$5 00
town of Winchester, for supplies for J. A. Messer in 1873	84 81
State Reform School, for board of Daniel Sullivan	26 00
for supplies for Aaron McIntire	66 36
for supplies for Catherine O'Keefe	10 00
for coal for Orville N. Wilder	17 75
town of North Reading for rent, for Joel Freeman's family for years 1873 and 1874	48 00
for supplies for Sylvanus Blanchard and family	\$74 28
for medical attendance (F. F. Brown)	16 25
G. C. Gleason, funeral expenses of Sylvanus Blanchard	28 00
	<hr/>
	118 53
for coal for Widow Calvin Nichols	\$24 50
for rent in 1873 for Widow Calvin Nichols	44 00
for rent in 1874 for Widow Calvin Nichols	66 00
	<hr/>
	134 50
for supplies for Joshua Keller	16 20
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$527 15

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$527 15
Paid for supplies for Benjamin Weston in 1873 . . .	14 00
for supplies for Benjamin Weston in 1874 . . .	191 93
for medical attendance	10 75
	<hr/>
	\$216 68
Worcester Lunatic Hospital, for board of Abigail P.	
Beers	183 82
for supplies for Samuel Poor in 1873 . . .	3 00
for wood and coal for William Pierce . . .	58 37
for wood and coal for Ivory Murray . . .	\$31 13
for supplies for Ivory Murray	48 92
	<hr/>
	80 05
for supplies for Joseph Bryant	126 71
funeral expenses of Pamela Barnard . . .	19 00
for wood and coal for Zeb. Lampro . . .	18 81
for coal for Levi Blanchard	4 50
for wood for Mrs. Judkins	4 00
city of Boston, for supplies for Edmund Grover .	99 56
	<hr/>
	\$1,341 65
Deduct cash, from Abigail P. Beers	\$52 00
from town of Bradford, for supplies for Samuel Poor	3 00
	<hr/>
	55 00
Net expense of poor out of almshouse	\$1,286 65
Net expense of poor in the almshouse	71 28
	<hr/>
Whole expense of poor out and in the almshouse . . .	\$1,357 93

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid John Norwood, services as police officer to April 1, 1874 . . .	\$50 00
N. H. Turner, services as police officer and constable to April 1, 1874	25 00
H. E. Cox, services as police officer and constable . . .	32 00
John A. Blunt " " " "	4 00
William L. Crowe " " " " and constable . . .	24 00
S. E. Parker " " school committee in 1872 and 1873 . .	79 00
Carroll D. Wright " " " "	55 00
Hiram Barrus " " " "	15 00
Sydney P. Pratt " " " "	25 00
William J. Wightman services as school committee in 1872 and 1873	55 00
" " " services as selectman, assessor, and overseer of poor	30 00
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$394 00

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$394 00
Paid William J. Wightman for services as town clerk	25 00
“ “ “ for recording births, deaths, and marriages	51 35
“ “ “ for making other official records	12 00
James Reid, for services as selectman, assessor, and overseer of poor	250 00
J. B. Leathe, for services as selectman, assessor, and overseer of poor	280 00
J. L. Pratt, for services as selectman, assessor, and overseer of poor	175 00
James A. Bancroft, for services as treasurer and collector	350 00
“ “ “ “ “ “ road commissioner	50 00
Charles A. Weston “ “ “ “ “	50 00
Henry S. La Clair “ “ “ “ “	50 00
Charles Tweed, for services as selectman and road commissioner	27 00
N. P. Pratt, for services as selectman, assessor, overseer of poor	15 00
D. B. Lovejoy, for services as sealer of weights and measures	20 00
E. C. Nichols, for services as committee on hose and engine house	17 00
Charles H. Lang, for services as committee on building and furnishing engine house	6 50
Charles H. Lang, for services as committee on hose and cisterns	5 00
T. Littlefield, for services as committee on hose and furnishing engine house	4 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,781 85

TOWN OFFICE.

Paid William Proctor for rent	\$150 00
for wood and coal	22 14
for stationery and books	12 44
for express charges	5 10
for postage stamps	2 50
for furniture	3 57
for washing windows, and keys	1 50
	<hr/>
	\$197 25

WATCHMAN.

Paid Harris Austin for services as night watchman	\$588 00
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PRINTING.

Paid for printing in 1873-74	\$15 50
“ “ town reports	273 00
“ “ for schools	18 75
“ “ for board of health	18 25
“ “ for road commissioners	3 50
“ “ for collector	11 00
“ “ for selectmen	42 50
	<hr/>
	\$382 50

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid treasurer of trustees	\$750 00	
treasurer of trustees, dog tax of 1873	105 57	
		<hr/>
		\$855 57
Appropriation	\$750 00	
Appropriation of dog tax	105 57	
		<hr/>
		855 57

CEMETERY.

Paid Solon Bancroft, treasurer of trustees		\$390 75
Appropriation	\$350 00	
Former appropriation remaining in treasury	139 15	
		<hr/>
		489 15
		<hr/>
Unexpended amount remaining in treasury		\$98 40

STREET LAMPS.

Paid Citizens' Gas Light Company, for gas	\$144 05	
George Beasley, for lighting	116 75	
Globe Gas Light Company, for one lantern and four burners	34 00	
William H. Bancroft, for repair of lanterns	8 65	
for cans and fluid	8 23	
John Pike, Sons and Co., expense gas light, corner Haven and Chute Streets	15 50	
labor and repairs	4 80	
express charges	55	
		<hr/>
		\$332 53

DAMAGES PAID FOR LAND TAKEN FOR EXTENSION
OF GREEN STREET.

Paid H. H. Niles	\$250 00	
Elnathan Brown	800 00	
		<hr/>
		\$1,050 00

REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS.

Paid Charles A. Weston, road commissioner, for money expended for labor	\$825 00	
H. S. La Clair, road commissioner, for money ex- pended for labor	1,364 71	
keeper of almshouse, for lab	275 66	
Alfred Nichols "	200 00	
		<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward</i>		\$2,665 37

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>		\$2,665 37
Paid John Burrill	for labor	13 80
Charles H. Moulton	"	4 00
Michael Forbes	"	12 00
David Crowell	"	28 40
R. M. Boyce	"	9 50
James A. Bancroft	"	18 00
Joseph L. Pratt, railing roads	. . . . .	1 00
" " " cedar posts	. . . . .	9 20
Waldo Brothers, for drain pipe	. . . . .	36 31
William Barrows, " " "	. . . . .	2 50
Emily Ruggles, for gravel	. . . . .	49 60
Milo Parker " "	. . . . .	1 20
H. L. Cummings, for carting in 1873	. . . . .	4 35
C. H. Moulton, for labor in 1873	. . . . .	82 00
L. E. Gleason, for gravel in 1873	. . . . .	8 00
D. S. Perkins, for gravel in 1872-73	. . . . .	12 55
Thomas B. Eames, for gravel in 1873	. . . . .	5 76
		<hr/> \$2,963 54
Unexpended balance	. . . . .	36 46
		<hr/>
Appropriation		\$3,000 00

EXTRA HIGHWAY.

Paid N. P. Pratt, for gravel in 1873-74	. . . . .	\$5 00
William M. Phillips, for drain pipe	. . . . .	3 00
Thomas P. Eames, moving wall on West Street	. . . . .	53 25
W. H. Baker, pick handles	. . . . .	80
Henry S. La Clair, labor corner Haven and Chute Streets	. . . . .	3 00
" " " " railing streets	. . . . .	58 71
" " " " labor and cash on sidewalk, High Street	. . . . .	27 00
Charles A. Weston, railing streets	. . . . .	37 68
" " " putting up guide boards and street signs	. . . . .	51 71
" " " on account reducing grade of hill on Main Street	. . . . .	188 74
R. M. Boyce, labor on account reducing grade of hill on Main Street	. . . . .	69 90
Charles H. Moulton, building culvert on Prescott Street	. . . . .	16 50
" " " " " " High Street	. . . . .	147 37
J. Breck and Sons, pick handles	. . . . .	3 00
Dodge, Gilbert, and Co., for hammers and handles	. . . . .	7 79
Whittemore Brothers, plough, road scraper, &c.	. . . . .	27 17
		<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>		\$700 62

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$706 62
Paid G. W. Atkinson, for hoe	65
for repair of tools	26 19
F. Harnden, for street and guide boards	21 50
M. H. Garfield, painting street signs and guide boards	70 70
Charles Wakefield, poles for railing	6 53
Waldo Brothers, drain pipe	20 76
R. D. Wilkins, labor and stone	39 75
H. L. Cummings, carting	14 25
	<hr/>
	\$900 95

REMOVING SNOW.

Paid J. G. Hutchinson	\$2 00
C. H. Moulton	9 50
Charles A. Weston	20 75
George Beasley	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$44 25

BUILDING GREEN STREET.

Paid H. S. La Clair, money expended	\$198 46
keeper of almshouse, for labor	298 24
C. H. Moulton " "	54 00
Michael Forbes " "	15 00
G. W. Atkinson, for labor on sidewalk	10 00
N. W. Broad, for labor and stock	24 99
R. M. Wilkins, building wall	20 75
Bancroft and Temple, building fence	45 00
T. F. Gould, tools and repairing tools	5 20
J. A. Waldo & Co., drain pipe	74 16
	<hr/>
	\$745 80

BUILDING MAPLE STREET.

Paid H. S. La Clair, money expended	\$93 32
Waldo Brothers, drain pipe	16 00
	<hr/>
	\$109 32

BUILDING HIGHLAND STREET.

Paid Michael Forbes, building wall	\$89 75
H. S. La Clair, money expended	49 50
Daniel Sullivan, setting bound stone	2 00
	<hr/>
	\$91 25

REBUILDING SOUTH STREET.

Paid Charles A. Weston, money expended	\$136 33
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BUILDING CISTERN CORNER JOHN AND PARKER
STREETS.

Paid Nathaniel Bunker, for labor	\$9 00
John McDonald " "	12 00
James Sullivan " "	2 00
Michael Hennessey " "	9 50
Alexander Nelson " "	22 00
N. H. Turner " "	72 76
E. Smith " "	19 00
Nelson Prescott " "	1 00
T. Riordan " "	3 50
N. W. Broad, for labor and stock	2 23
McCann and Burns, iron bars	4 97
S. S. Hill, for brick	105 00
B. and M. R. R., for freight on brick and cement	34 16
T. F. Gould, for tools	7 17
H. P. Emerson, for cement	54 00
Chelmsford Iron Works, frame and covers	11 00
Waldo Brothers, drain pipe	5 04
Bancroft and Temple, lumber	7 53
Charles H. Lang, express charges	1 00
oil and lanterns	2 06

\$384 92

REPAIRS ON CISTERNS.

Paid Edward Parker, stock and labor on cistern on Common	\$25 47
E. E. Nichols, covers and repair on covers	4 50
N. H. Turner, cement and labor on Woburn-street cistern	13 50

\$43 47

BUILDING HANCOCK ENGINE HOUSE.

Paid William M. Phillips, balance in full for building	\$631 95
Charles A. Case, for labor	16 75
Charles H. Danforth, for labor	6 12
Daniel Sullivan, for labor	75
B. S. Cressey, stucco work	8 00
Samuel Brown, painting sign, &c.	27 00
E. C. Nichols, date sign	3 50
Charles H. Lang, flag staff, halliards, &c.	3 15
Charles H. Moulton, grading lot	2 25
Waldo Brothers, drain pipe	6 72

\$706 19

FURNISHING HANCOCK ENGINE HOUSE.

Paid T. Littlefield, stoves and fixtures	\$57 29	
F. Harnden, furniture	9 00	
Matthew Hanley, chairs	7 60	
S. J. Cass, for step ladder	4 50	
F. O. Dewey, chandelier and lamp	18 25	
Charles H. Lang, furniture	2 30	
D. F. Weston, settees	36 00	
		<hr/>
		\$134 94
Unexpended balance		15 06
		<hr/>
Appropriation		\$150 00

STATE AID.

Paid Jules R. Allen	\$48 00
Sylvanus Blanchard	91 20
Daniel Berry	48 00
George W. Carleton	18 00
William W. Davis	72 00
Moses F. Eaton	48 00
George F. Goodwin	48 00
Adam Hetler	48 00
L. W. Krook	36 00
Charles B. Leathe	168 00
James F. Leslie	27 00
John K. Lloyd	20 00
Benjamin McAllister	72 00
William Mears	72 00
Edwin Manning	54 00
Isaac Monroe	40 00
Edward E. Nichols	48 00
Tobias Pinkham	48 00
John E. Robinson	48 00
Charles H. Stevens	48 00
George W. Simes	60 00
S. Nelson Weston	36 00
Charles O. Young	64 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,262 20

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

For 1872	\$15 76
1873	381 19
1874	58 99
	<hr/>
	\$455 94

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid Lyceum Hall Association, use of hall for town meetings .	\$130 00
Bancroft and Temple, fencing engine and schoolhouse lot .	152 50
George Beasley, for labor on Woburn-street schoolhouse lot	6 00
Charles H. Moulton, moving old engine house to farm . .	30 00
J. B. Leathe, making duplicate valuation book for State .	20 00
C. P. Judd, services as counsel in Mrs. Case's suit, 1872-73 .	99 40
Solon Bancroft, as counsel in E. B. Eames's suit, 1873 . .	30 00
G. C. Gleason, returning deaths to town clerk	10 50
Hiram Barrus, services as committee on history of Reading .	40 00
George Parker, for woodland for town farm	125 00
J. W. Gleason, for care of gun to March 13, 1874	6 00
Nathan Bancroft, for care and repair of flag, 1873-74 . .	5 50
" " " " " " " " 1874-75	5 00
George W. Dean, ringing bell	4 50
W. H. Wightman, tending check list	1 50
James M. Day " " "	1 50
H. S. La Clair " " "	4 50
Benjamin Peabody, repairing pump on Common	12 25
Town of North Reading, repairs on bridge on Main Street .	23 75
J. A. Bancroft, surveying streets	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$722 90

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriation for schools	\$11,000 00
" for schools, incidentals	1,500 00
" for ordinary charges	10,000 00
" for interest on town debt	4,500 00
" for fire department	2,000 00
" for furniture for Hancock engine-house	150 00
" for improvements in cemetery	350 00
" for public library	750 00
" for sinking fund	2,337 00
" for highways	3,000 00
Overlaying of taxes	1,207 35
State tax	2,560 00
County tax	1,751 80
Corporation tax	566 69
Bank tax	741 02
Massachusetts school fund	280 98
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	<i>\$42,694 84</i>

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$42,694 84
State aid	1,451 34
Dog tax	180 69
Subscription for watchman	89 50
Interest on taxes and note	461 95
Discount on county tax	17 52
Dividend from insurance companies	116 50
Taxes after being abated	28 67
Cash from town of Bradford	26 35
“ from Abigail P. Beers	52 00
“ for tuition	30 00
“ from Moses Mears for culvert	30 00
“ for betterments	372 00
“ from H. G. Randall, for drain pipe	8 16

\$45,559 52

EXPENDITURES.

For schools	\$10,541 15
For schools, incidentals	1,025 12
For supplies at almshouse	964 06
For poor out of almshouse	1,341 65
For repair of highways	2,963 54
For extra of highway work	900 95
For removing snow	44 25
For building Green Street	745 80
For building Maple Street	109 32
For building Highland Street	91 25
For rebuilding South Street	136 33
For damages for land taken for highways	1,050 00
For public library	855 57
For street lamps	332 53
For fire department	1,982 05
For building cistern	384 92
For repairs of cisterns	43 47
For town officers	1,781 85
For town office	197 25
For watchman	588 00
For cemetery	390 75
For Hancock engine house	706 19
For furnishing Hancock engine house	134 94
For printing	382 50
For abatement of taxes	455 94
For miscellaneous	722 90

Amount carried forward,

\$28,872 28

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$28,872 28
For State aid	1,262 20
For State tax	2,560 00
For county tax	1,751 80
For interest on town debt	4,487 11
For insurance on schoolhouses, piano, and library	350 00
	<hr/>
	\$39,292 39
Receipts more than expenditures	6,267 13
	<hr/>
	\$45,559 52

VALUATION FOR 1874.

Valuation of real estate, 1874	\$2,038,531 00
“ “ “ “ 1873	1,851,695 00
	<hr/>
Gain in 1874	\$186,836 00
Valuation of personal property, 1874	\$298,876 00
“ “ “ “ 1873	254,879 00
	<hr/>
Gain in 1874	\$43,997 00
Total valuation in 1874	\$2,337,407 00
“ “ “ 1873	2,106,574 00
	<hr/>
Total gain in 1874	\$230,833 00
Amount of taxes assessed in 1874	\$41,106 15

Rate of taxation for general tax, \$15.50 on \$1,000.

“ “ “ “ highway tax \$1.12 on \$1,000.

Number of polls, May 1, 1874, 882.

“ “ dwelling-houses, 629.

“ “ acres land taxed, 5,694½.

We have placed before you for your consideration the foregoing statement of the receipts and expenditures of the town for the financial year ending March 1, 1875. None of the departments have exceeded their appropriations, and some show quite an amount unexpended; proving, conclusively, that a reduction in appropriations can be made to such amount, unless there should be an unexpected increase of expense. A larger sum will be necessary in the road 'commissioners' department, unless

a special appropriation be made for widening and straightening Summer Street, which will probably cost as much as the extra highway work done the past year. The Report shows the appropriation for schools to have been larger than was necessary. There seems to have been no reduction, but, on the contrary, a large increase of expense, in this department, and still quite a respectable balance unexpended.

The fire department is in a very efficient condition both as regards its membership and apparatus, being bountifully provided with hose and other necessary appliances, which will require no considerable addition for the ensuing year at least, rendering a moderate reduction of the appropriation for this purpose possible.

Considerable complaint had been made that the valuation of real estate was unequal; some portions, especially what are termed farming-lands, located near the centre of the town and depot, being undervalued. This complaint led us to make a somewhat extended examination into the matter, which resulted in the conviction that the complaint was well founded. We not only found lands that were undervalued, but some quite valuable parcels that had been omitted altogether: we have endeavored to equalize the valuation of this class of property to some extent. A much more general compliance with the statutes in regard to bringing in to the assessors complete lists of their polls and estates, would materially aid the assessors in their duties. The stagnation of business which has prevailed during the past year has led to an increase in the expense of the poor out of the almshouse.

The town has been burdened to a greater extent by tramps than any other town in the county (we having entertained fourteen hundred and two during the past year), owing, in a great degree, to our being so centrally located. Reading being a day's journey for tramps from Boston, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, Salem, and other cities, and on the principal thoroughfare of travel both by rail and highway, is made the "halfway house," or stopping-place, for large numbers on their travels to and from those places. What shall we do with the tramps? is a question frequently asked in every town; but one which as yet

has failed to receive a satisfactory answer. They are principally made up of laborers, who are also foreigners; though, since the strike at Fall River and other manufacturing places, a considerable number of operatives are also on the road. Remunerative employment would undoubtedly cure this evil.

JAMES REID,	}	<i>Selectmen,</i>
J. B. LEATHE,		<i>Assessors, and</i>
J. L. PRATT,		<i>Overseers of Poor</i>

Dr.

JAMES A. BANCROFT, *Treasurer and Collector*, in Account with the TOWN OF READING.

Cr.

To Balance in Treasury, March 2, 1874	.	.	\$7,719 96	By Paying Selectmen's Orders	.	.	.	\$30,134 48
Cash Subscription for Watchman	.	.	89 50	" Town Debt	.	.	.	14,988 08
State Aid	.	.	1,451 34	" Interest on Debt	.	.	.	4,487 11
Corporation Tax	.	.	566 69	" Insurance	.	.	.	359 00
National Bank Tax	.	.	741 02	" State Tax	.	.	.	2,560 00
School Fund	.	.	280 98	" County Tax	.	.	.	1,751 80
Hired Money	.	.	12,685 91					
Interest	.	.	24 01					\$54,280 47
Interest on Taxes	.	.	437 94	Balance in Treasury of uncollected Taxes for				
Discount on County Tax	.	.	17 52	1873	.	.	.	\$302 10
Dividend from Insurance Companies	.	.	116 50	Uncollected Taxes for 1874	.	.	.	7,961 42
Dog Tax	.	.	180 69	J. Heselon's Note	.	.	.	115 00
Taxes after being abated	.	.	28 67	Cash, including Balance of Sinking Fund				3,306 40
Cash of the Town of Bradford	.	.	26 35					11,684 92
" of Abigail P. Beers	.	.	52 00					\$65,965 39
" for Tuition	.	.	30 00					
" of Moses Mears	.	.	30 00					
" for Betterments	.	.	372 00					
" of H. G. Randall	.	.	8 16					
Tax List for Collection	.	.	41,106 15					
			\$65,965 39					

READING, March 1, 1875.

JAMES A. BANCROFT,
Treasurer and Collector.

AUDITORS' REPORT,

FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1875.

LIABILITIES.

The town owes notes amounting to . . .	\$67,375 00	
Interest computed to March 1, 1875 . . .	1,163 81	
		\$68,538 81
Amount due fire department, estimated at . .	\$1,000 00	
Miscellaneous debts	300 00	1,300 00
		<u>\$69,838 81</u>

AVAILABLE ASSETS.

J. Heselton's note	\$115 00	
Unpaid taxes	8,263 52	
Cash in the hands of the treasurer	3,306 40	
		<u>11,684 92</u>
Amount of debt above available assets . . .		\$58,153 89

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY.

Town farm, valued at	\$4,000 00	
Personal property at almshouse	2,630 77	
		\$6,630 77
Cemetery, land and lots	\$2,635 83	
Hearse, estimated at	150 00	
Hearse house	75 00	
		<u>2,860 83</u>
Eagle fire engine and hose carriage	\$700 00	
“ “ “ house and cistern	500 00	
Hancock fire engine and hose carriage . . .	500 00	
“ “ “ house	2,000 00	
Washington fire engine	200 00	
“ “ “ house	40 00	
Union fire engine	50 00	
Hook and ladder carriage, &c.	400 00	
“ “ “ house	80 00	
Furniture in engine houses, and hose . . .	1,750 00	
		<u>6,220 00</u>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>		<u>\$15,711 60</u>

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>		\$15,711 60
Iron safe in selectmen's office	\$50 00	
Furniture and library in selectmen's office . .	350 00	
	<hr/>	400 00
Schoolhouses and furniture	\$35,000 00	
Public library and furniture	2,500 00	
Piano in high school, and philosophical apparatus	700 00	
	<hr/>	38,200 00
Amount due from State for aid furnished soldiers		1,500 00
		<hr/>
		\$55,811 60

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the year ending March 1, 1875, and find the same correct and properly vouched.

NATHAN P. PRATT,	} <i>Auditors.</i>
WILLIAM PROCTOR,	
W. J. WIGHTMAN,	

READING, March 18, 1875.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1874.

Date.	Names.	Sex.	Names of Parents.	Occupation of Father.
Jan. 18.	Lillian Cummings Stone.	F.	John Henry and Carrie A.	Salesman.
" 28.	Herman Chester Skinner.	M.	Herbert A. and Bessey M.	Railroad-conductor.
Feb. 3.	Earnest Stanley Richardson	"	Arthur S. and Carrie H.	Shoe-manufacturer.
" 12.	Alice Ball Badger.	F.	William H. and Carrie A.	Organ-builder.
" 15.	Albert H. Jaquith.	M.	Phineas H. and Lucy A. S.	Farmer.
" 20.	Hyllier.	"	Benjamin and —	
" 21.	Elizabeth Caroline Pike.	F.	John S. and Abbie.	Salesman.
" 22.	Louis H. Leathe.	M.	William H. and Alma E.	Mechanic.
" 27.	Henry Perley Harnden.	"	Henry and Emma F.	Provision-dealer.
March 2.	O'Brien.	"	James and Mary A.	Mechanic.
" 9.	William McFadden.	"	Patrick and Kate.	Laborer.
" 10.	Newell Hubbard Hawes.	"	Newell B. and Juliet H.	Merchant.
" 11.	Albert Henry Hollis.	"	Amos F. and Martha P.	Printer.
" 15.	Dempsey.	F.	Alden and —	
" 23.	Charles Franklin Bullard.	M.	Franklin E. and Ellen B.	Farmer.
" 28.	Daniel Collins.	"	John and Ellen.	Laborer.
" 29.	Charles Henry Kelley.	"	Charles W. and Emma J.	Shoe-cutter.
April 17.	George Blood.	"	George W. and Mary E.	Machinist.
" 20.	Opal Stearus Landy.	F.	Luke R. and Carrie L.	Cabinet-maker.
" 22.	Mattie Florence Nute.	"	Ivory H. and Florence A.	Engineer.
" 24.	Etta Morse.	"	Thomas H. and Emma.	Farmer.
May 4.	Ella May Hunt.	"	George W. and Mary A.	Mechanic.
" 7.	Edward William Geritson.	M.	William D. and Mary F.	Cabinet-maker.
" 13.	Manning.	F.	Ezra K. and Mary L.	Farmer.
" 16.	George Huse Bancroft.	M.	James A. and Harriet M.	Surveyor.
" 23.	Bancroft.	"	Solon and Ellen M.	Counsellor.
" 27.	Dennis Foley.	"	Bartholomew and Mary.	Laborer.
June 28.	Potter.	F.	Hanson B. and Lizzie E.	Telegraph line man.
" 30.	Hannah Whelton.	"	David and Ann.	Laborer.
July 6.	John Francis Hale.	M.	A. G. R. and Julia H.	Lawyer.
" 12.	James Warren Killam.	"	Joseph W. and Mary S.	Farmer.
" 19.	George Franklin McAllister.	"	Benjamin F. and Mary J.	Chemist.
" 20.	McGee.	"	Daniel and Ann J.	Teamster.
" 20.	Mabel Ella Burroughs.	F.	Samuel R. and Ella A.	Cabinet-finisher.
" 26.	William Henry Stock.	M.	Henry and Ada.	Cabinet-maker.
" 30.	Arthur Franklin Zappy.	"	John C. and Mary E.	Cabinet-maker.
Aug. 10.	Henry Anthony Norwood.	"	John R. and Eliza F.	Organ-pipe maker.
" 10.	Walter Irving Sweetser.	"	Kirk and Delia E.	Farmer.
" 10.	Arthur Sheldon Woodman.	"	Sheldou S. and Mary E.	Cabinet-maker.
" 17.	Ward.	"	W. W. and Mary.	Agent.
" 22.	Jeremiah Driscoll.	"	Jeremiah and Catherine.	Laborer.
" 30.	Flora Estella Cook.	F.	George F. and Augusta A.	Blacksmith.
Sept. 2.	Bertha Eaton Danforth.	"	Alfred W. and Alice A.	Druggist.
" 3.	Maggie O. Zildock Doucette.	"	Felix and Mary.	Carpenter.
" 3.	Jennie Palmer.	"	James M. P. and Sarah L. P.	
" 4.	Percy Raymond Lynn.	M.	Andrew J. and Joan E.	Clerk.
" 10.	Susette Caroline Berry.	F.	Daniel W. and Eliza A.	Butcher.
" 11.	Edith Lillian Broad.	"	Nathaniel W. and Mary E.	Carpenter.
" 19.	Harry Cushman Leporte.	M.	Thomas H. and Eliza R.	Tailor.
Nov. 3.	Florence Ellingwood.	F.	John S. and Elmira W.	Carpenter.
" 3.	Smith.	"	Frank M. and Ann L.	Salesman.
" 9.	Nellie Adelia Richardson.	"	Everett B. and Emma M.	Shoe-manufacturer.
" 21.	Mary Almira Clement.	"	William and Anna Maria.	Mechanic.
" 22.	Cecil Clyde Hitchcock.	M.	Charles H. and Sarah F.	Painter.
" 25.	Adam Cunningham.	"	Adam and Mary.	Cabinet-maker.
" 29.	Lewis.	"	Frank and Addie E.	Merchant.
Dec. 1.	Wright.	F.	Carroll D. and Carrie E.	Patent-solicitor.
" 11.	Arthur Bliss Easterbrooks.	M.	John G. and Ariminta J.	Railroad-conductor.
" 13.	Lizzie Bell Maynard.	F.	William and Caroline.	Stable-keeper.
" 15.	Abiel Chandler Manning.	M.	Jacob W. and Lydia B.	Farmer.
" 19.	Temple, } Twins.	F.	William H. and Ruth A.	Auctioneer.
" 19.	Temple, }	"		
" 29.	Mattie May Allen.	"	Milo L. and Martha E.	Clerk.
" 31.	Geritson.	M.	Charles S. and Nancy E.	Cabinet-maker.

Number of Births registered . . . 64
 Males . . . 37 . . . Females . . . 27

NATIVITY OF PARENTS.

United States . . . Father, 48 . . . Mother, . . . 52
 Foreign . . . " 16 . . . " . . . 16

DEATHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1874.

Date.	Names.	Age.		Names of Parents or Husband.	Cause.
		Y.	M.-D.		
Jan. 12	Charles K. Turner.	19	11	9 Naaman H. and Joanna A.	Accidental.
Feb. 24	Michael Barrett.	22	3	24 Patrick and Hannah.	Consumption.
" 28	Walter J. Austin.	47	3	3 Oliver W. and Ella A.	
Mar. 23	Mary J. Damon.	47	1	Elias and Esther.	Consumption.
April 7	Albert Henry Hollis.	54	25	Amos F. and Martha P.	Inanition.
" 29	Amariah Blood.	3	4	3 Phineas and Rahamah.	Heart-di-ease.
May 7	George H. Converse.	82	3	3 Albert F. and Martha.	Scarlet-fever.
" 8	Hitty Gowing.	15	11	3 Jonathan and Hitty.	Old age.
" 8	Martha E. Wright.	18	11	3 Rufus B. and Mary E.	Consumption.
" 17	Floretta Pierce.	64	11	11 John and Agnes.	Consumption.
" 18	Adaline A. Hunton.	32	11	2 Harry Hunton.	Consumption.
" 18	Harriet M. Bancroft.	8	8	2 James A. Bancroft.	Puerperal peritonitis.
June 13	Percy T. Thomas.	45	8	Charles D. and E. Josephine.	Scarlet-fever.
" 27	Silas Richardson.	46	4	26 Silas and	Ulceration of bowels.
July 7	George W. Greene.	83	3	10 Phineas and Clarissa.	
" 17	Putnam Emerson.	49	2	2 John and Annah.	Old age.
" 22	Alfred Nichols.	72	5	5 Peter and Mehitable.	Embolism of heart.
" 30	James Butler.	44	11	19 Daniel and Mary.	Typhoid-dysentery.
Aug. 13	D. Myron Damon.	88	6	6 James A. and Harriet M.	Diabetes.
" 22	George H. Bancroft.	85	6	6 Thomas and Mary.	Erysipelas.
" 22	Eben D. Symonds.	26	5	23 James and Mary.	Old age.
Sept. 1	Pamela Barnard.	53	6	26 William H. and Alma E.	Dysentery.
" 11	Albert H. Jaquith.	74	8	9 Aaron Parker.	
" 15	Mary E. Babb.	53	5	23 John and Betsey.	Pneumonia.
" 17	James S. Leathe.	74	1	4 Charles and Emma H.	Cholera infantum.
" 17	Louis H. Leathe.	39	7	28 Benjamin Kendall.	Pneumonia.
" 20	Rebecca Parker.	71	10	10 Rufus B. Wright.	Consumption.
" 27	Anna Haug.	71	10	10 Joseph and Lois.	Diabetes.
Oct. 6	Sylvanus Blanchard.	79	9	9 Ames and Emma G.	Dropsy.
" 10	Nettie B. Taylor.	85	8	7 Isaac Weston.	Cancer.
" 24	Armine H. Lambert.	85	8	7 Daniel and Elizabeth.	Apoplexy.
" 25	Nancy W. Kendall.	49	7	7 W. H. Hatch.	Paralysis.
" 29	Mary E. Wright.	34	8	8 Samuel and Harriet.	
Nov. 6	Samuel Holbrook.	77	11	17	
" 6	Daisy Gowing.	17	17	17 Daniel and Fanny.	Lung-fever.
" 8	Betsey Weston.	46	17	17 Joseph B. Wilbur.	Consumption.
" 14	Nancy Bittle.				Apoplexy.
" 18	Caroline L. Hatch.				
" 25	Kate A. Parker.				
Dec. 10	Harriet N. Gray.				
" 21	Kate F. Dooling.				
" 22	Elizabeth Wilbur.				

Whole number of Deaths registered in 1874	42
Males	20
Females	22

NATIVITY.

United States	42
Foreign	None.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1874.

Date.	Name of Groom and Bride.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation of Groom.	Place of Birth.	Names of Parents.	By Whom Married.
Jan. 14.	Clarence A. Stearns.	27	Reading.	Hotel-keeper.	Lowell.	Varus and Nancy.	Rev. A. A. Miner, {
"	Annie M. Gannon.	20	Rochester, N.H.		Lowell.	James and Mary.	Boston. }
"	Harland P. Pratt.	27	Reading.	Necktie-cutter.	Reading.	Benjamin F. and Harriet N.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
Feb. 4.	N. Irene Richardson.	27	Reading.		Woburn.	Pearson and Nancy.	Rev. William Barrows.
"	Oscar Foote.	49	Reading.	Tallow-manufacturer.	Fairfield, Vt.	Ira and Sally.	
"	Mary Chase.	42	Boston.	Laborer.	England.	Chaffin and Jane (Varnum).	Rev. A. S. Gardiner.
"	Joseph H. Brown.	23	Reading.		Nova Scotia.	William H. and Matilda.	
Mar. 4.	Alice Robinson.	18	Reading.	Salesman.	England.	James H. and Alice.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
"	James A. Day.	23	Reading.		Reading.	James M. and Maria A.	
"	Delia A. Bryant.	24	Lynnfield.	Watchmaker.	Lynnfield.	Jonathan and Sarah P.	Rev. John N. Short.
"	Henry B. Day.	25	Lynn.		Kennebunk, Me.	James W. and Mehitable.	
"	Mary A. Cox.	21	Malden.	Wheelwright.	Malden.	Levi and Mary Ann.	Rev. W. P. Tilden, {
"	Allen G. Peck.	23	Reading.		Barrington, R.I.	James B. and Hannah R.	Boston. }
April 25.	Sarah A. Tewksbury.	33	Reading.	Shoe-dealer.	Reading.	Cyrus and Sarah A.	Rev. M. P. Flatley, {
"	Severin Doucette.	24	Boston.		Nova Scotia.	Thomas and Mary M.	Wakefield. }
"	Ann Catherine Kagen.	23	Reading.	Moulder.	Ireland.	Daniel and Joanna.	Rev. Thos. J. Greenwood.
"	Edward F. Brooks.	23	Reading.		Reading.	William and Elizabeth A.	
May 13.	Mary Lizzie Penney.	29	Reading.	Farmer.	Reading.	Jackson and Susan M.	Rev. D. B. Scott.
"	Alfred G. Carter.	29	Lynnfield.	Rubber-cutter.	Lynnfield.	Nathl W. C. and Susanna.	
June 3.	Sarah L. D. Wellman.	21	Malden.	Clerk.	Malden.	Thomas F. and Sophia A.	Rev. John N. Short.
"	Franklin I. Welch.	40	Boston.		Newbury, Vt.	John A. and Cyrene E.	
"	Lizzie E. Dunbar.	30	Boston.	Mechanic.	Charlestown.	Henry E. and Mary G.	Rev. William Barrows.
"	Louisa J. Benton.	26	Reading.	Cabinet-maker.	Surrey, N.H.	William and Elizabeth S.	Rev. Oseur F. Safford.
"	George A. Sargent.	30	Reading.	Tailor.	Charlestown.	Abijah and Rebecca.	
July 6.	Josephine Nichols.	28	St neham.		Reading.	Thomas and Rebecca.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
"	Charles W. Norris.	22	Malden.	Harness-maker.	Lyndeborough, N.H.	Edwin P. and Lucinda A.	
"	Hattie O. Jaquith.	22	Reading.		South Boston.	Lewis and Mary.	Rev. W. H. Hatch.
"	John Henry Webb.	22	Reading.	Mason.	Newbury, Vt.	Cyrus and Orissa.	Rev. W. H. Fitzpatrick.
"	Mary Ella Dunbar.	19	Reading.	Plasterer.	Canada East.	Alfred and Paulina.	Rev. A. S. Gardiner.
Aug. 1.	Patrick McCall.	25	Billerica.	Clergyman.	Reading.	Francis and Jane.	
"	Margaret Daley.	20	Reading.		Reading.	Michael and Mary.	Rev. Charles R. Bliss.
"	Edward E. Foster.	20	Reading.		Boston.	Edward and Elmira.	Rev. J. L. Whittemore.
"	Robert Burgess.	20	Reading.		Nova Scotia.	Joseph W. and Sarah E.	Rev. William Barrows.
"	Ellis J. Whittemore.	28	Reading.		South Reading.	George and Mary.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	Mary D. Sweet.	28	Reading.		Middleboro.	Sylvester and Mary S.	
"	Clara Bartley.	22	Andover.		Windham, N.H.	J. L. and Amy L.	
"	George A. Shattuck.	22	Reading.		Georgetown.	Robert and Clarissa.	
"	Nancy Holt.	20	Reading.		Reading.	Nathaniel and Elizabeth.	
"	John H. Eaton.	21	Reading.		Reading.	Isaac and Mary.	
"	Clara A. Swain.	18	Reading.		Reading.	Moses F. and Lydia C.	
						Oliver A. and Sophia B.	

Sept.	1.	Christian E. Rahr.	32	Reading.	United States Officer.	Denmark.	August and Sine.	Rev. Charles R. Bliss.
Oct.	1.	Emma I. Barbour.	17	Reading.	Clerk.	Wakefield.	Joseph and Teabella.	Rev. A. S. Gardiner.
"	"	Charles Haywood Giffin.	29	Reading.		New York.	Charles H. and Eliza.	Rev. Justin K. Richardson.
"	8.	Maria L'H. Gardiner.	31	Reading.	Clergyman.	Greenport, N.Y.	Abraham S. and C. F.	Rev. M. F. Flatley.
"	14.	William Libbey.	35	Wilton, N.H.	Baker.	Boston.	Tristram and Dorothy.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	15.	Caroline F. Lunt.	24	Reading.	Mechanic.	Groton.	Theodore H. and Joan.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	27.	John G. Smith.	23	Reading.	Shoemaker.	Germany.	Fredrick and Margaret.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
"	4.	Wm. K. Pratt.	32	Reading.	Cabinet-maker.	Reading.	James and Rose.	Rev. W. H. Hatch.
Nov.	4.	Wm. K. Pratt.	31	North Reading.	Clerk.	North Reading.	Benjamin F. and Harriet.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	5.	Elizabeth B. Day.	50	Reading.	Mechanic.	Canada.	George and Betsey.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	25.	Jewell Hovey Eaton.	23	North Reading.	Farmer.	Stoneliham.	Paul and Matilda.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
"	26.	Gerrude Maria Gleason.	24	Reading.	Clerk.	Reading.	William D. and Rebecca W.	Rev. W. H. Hatch.
Dec.	1.	Walter A. Emerson.	21	Reading.	Cordwainer.	Groton.	John and Nancy.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	5.	Ella M. Francis.	23	Reading.	Clerk.	East Boston.	Edw. and Betsy.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
"	7.	James O. McCorsion.	23	Bath, Me.	Clerk.	Bath, Me.	John A. and Arabella S.	Rev. James K. Ewer.
"	23.	Ada O. Copeland.	22	Reading.	Clerk.	North Reading.	James F. and Mary A.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
"	24.	Daniel W. McIntire.	18	North Reading.	Clerk.	Norway, Me.	Elbridge and Ruth B.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
"	28.	Elizabeth E. Morse.	22	Reading.	Cabinet-maker.	East Boston.	William C. and Jane.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	30.	Benjamin F. Newell.	23	Reading.	Druggist.	Reading.	Alonzo and Lydia.	Rev. James K. Ewer.
"	31.	Rodney H. Gleason.	20	Reading.	Cabinet-maker.	Woburn.	Benj. F. and Elizabeth U.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	32.	Julia R. Emerson.	20	Reading.	Clockmaker.	Exeter, N.H.	Daniel B. and Mary A.	Rev. Wm. A. Thompson.
"	33.	Charles A. Pitman.	20	Reading.	Farmer.	Woburn.	Henry A. and Emily P.	Rev. E. B. Fairchild.
"	34.	Amie P. Weston.	18	Reading.		Woburn.	Eben M. and Mary L.	Rev. William H. Willcox.
"	35.	Charles S. Gerritson.	29	Boston.		Woburn.	William M. and Abra A.	
"	36.	Nancy Emma Parker.	26	Reading.		Woburn.	Henry C. and Maria.	
"	37.	Daniel Weston.	26	Reading.		Woburn.	Warren and Emily J.	
"	38.	Mary A. Hopkins.	62	Reading.		Woburn.	James and Rebecca B.	
"	39.	Hazel J. Nelson.	42	Woburn.		Woburn.	Joseph B. and Mary J.	
"	40.	Hannah E. Pearsons.					Jonathan and Sully.	
"	41.						William B. and Eliza M.	

Whole number of Marriages registered in 1874 39

NATIVITY OF PERSONS MARRIED.

	Males.	Females.
United States	32	36
Foreign	7	3

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF ENGINEERS

OF THE

READING FIRE DEPARTMENT

FOR

1874-75.

ENGINEER'S REPORT.

*To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of
Reading : —*

IN submitting our Annual Report, we congratulate you on your escape from the ravages of fire during the past year. There have been but four alarms since our last Report. Three of these were from brush-fires, and were all extinguished without the aid of the engines. The fourth alarm was occasioned by the burning of a new dwelling-house in the town of Wakefield, near the head of the lake. The Hook and Ladder Company, and Engine Company No. 4, responded to this alarm, and rendered efficient service. We consider the department in good condition both in men and material, and, should occasion require, would be found equal to any, and second to no department of equal numbers. The force of the department is as follows: one engine, with hose-carriage attached, located on Woburn Street, with a company of forty men; one engine with two hose-carriages attached, located on Union Street, with a company of sixty men; one hook-and-ladder truck, located on Middle Street, with a company of sixteen men. In addition, we have one small tub-engine, with hose-carriage attached, located on Ash Street, with a company of juvenile volunteers; and one tub-engine (the old Union No. 1), which is in charge of S. A. Parker, Esq., at his mill on Pearl Street. Total number of men in the department, including the Board of Engineers, one hundred and twenty-one. The amount of leading hose is about two thousand feet, and is all in good condition. The hook-and-ladder carriage has been newly painted during the past year, and the Eagle Engine has received a coat of varnish. The house containing the hook-and-ladder truck is somewhat the

worse for wear; and we hope, at no distant day, to see a more commodious building erected for the use of the company. The water-supply has been increased the past year, by the building of a cistern at the corner of Parker and John Streets, capable of holding about eighteen thousand gallons. The engine house on Woburn Street, which was in process of construction at the close of last year, has been completed, and is now occupied by Hancock Engine Company No. 2. The building is two stories in height, substantially built, and is a credit to the town, and an ornament to the neighborhood in which it is located. The annual parade and inspection of the department took place on the 30th of September, and was witnessed by a large concourse of citizens of our own and surrounding towns; and general satisfaction was expressed at the appearance of the men, and their efficiency in handling their apparatus. We believe the annual parade is beneficial to the department, and recommend the appropriation of one hundred dollars for that purpose the ensuing year.

The expenses of the department for the past year have been as follows:—

Paid Jona Frost, for rent of land for Washington engine-house for 1872-73, two years	\$4 00
C. C. Cummings, for services as steward of Eagle Engine Company	60 00
W. H. Baker, for repairs on engines in 1873	2 75
E. B. Eames, for repairs on hook and ladder in 1873	2 00
William Vermill, for care of hook and ladder truck	5 00
Charles A. Case, for drawing engine to fire	1 00
Arthur S. Richardson, for services as steward of Hancock Engine Company to May 1, 1874	24 00
Charles H. Danforth, for services as Engineer	17 00
“ “ “ expenses to Lowell	3 50
Samuel Brown, for lettering coats for Fire Department, 1873	1 50
W. H. Chandler, for blank certificates of membership	5 50
N. W. Broad, for repairs on Eagle engine-house	43 54
“ “ “ for troughs for oiling hose	18 40
Smith and Lovett for coal cover and frame	8 00
C. C. Cummings, for oiling hose	8 00
J. C. Cook, setting glass and painting on Eagle engine-house	4 05

Amount carried forward,

\$208 24

	<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$208 24
Paid	C. K. Littlefield, for oiling hose	4 00
	Members of Fire Department for the year ending	
	May 1, 1874	1,200 32
	Belt and Leather Stuffing Company, for oil for hose	90 13
	David Crowell, for services as engineer	12 00
	“ “ for expenses to Lowell	3 00
	“ “ for clearing snow, and other labor	6 00
	M. H. Garfield, for repairs and painting hook and lad-	
	der carriage	68 75
	“ “ “ for varnishing Eagle Engine	40 25
	“ “ “ for lettering coats for Washington En-	
	gine Company	1 00
	Packard and Burrill, for dusters	1 50
	J. Hunneman, for varnish for hose	1 50
	C. H. Danforth, for fireman's annual parade	100 00
	G. W. Atkinson, for oil, sponge, and sundries	3 36
	Samuel Brown, for labor on engine and ladders	11 00
	Noyes Carleton, for labor on engines, 1873	1 25
	C. H. Lang, for oil, keys, and express charges	5 15
	E. E. Smith, for services as steward of Hancock En-	
	gine Company to Feb. 1,	35 00
	“ “ “ for repairs of belt and clothing	1 00
	H. F. Parker, for coal for Hancock and Eagle Engine	
	Companies	8 75
	John C. Stone, for platform to well, corner of Main	
	and Summer Streets	15 00
	W. M. Phillips, for platform to well on West Street,	
	and at Engine House No. 2	17 52
	Belt and Leather Stuffing Company, for hose oiler	
	and tester	65 00
	Alfred Hale and Company, for rubber coats	10 00
	Parker and Stone, for refreshments and nails	4 88
	John A. Blunt, for ice-chisel, and repair of tools	11 57
	G. W. Atkinson, for broom, oil, and chimneys	1 25
	H. E. Cox, for wood for Eagle Engine Company	1 00
	Charles H. Lang, for services as chief engineer	25 00
	E. C. Nichols, for services as engineer	12 00
	T. Littlefield, for services as engineer	12 00
	Hunneman and Company, for repairing hose	4 63
		<hr/>
	Appropriation unexpended	1,982 05
		17 95
		<hr/>
	Appropriation	2,000 00
		\$2,000 00

There have been extensive improvements and repairs made the past year, which have caused us to use nearly all of the appropriation; and, in view of the fact of every thing in the department being now in good repair and condition, we think, with the practice of economy, the expenses can be reduced the ensuing year three hundred dollars. We therefore recommend the appropriation of seventeen hundred (\$1,700) dollars for the expenses of the department the ensuing year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES H. LANG,	}	<i>Chief Engineer.</i>
E. C. NICHOLS,		
D. CROWELL,		
C. H. DANFORTH,		
H. E. COX,		
CHAS. H. DANFORTH,		<i>Clerk.</i>

READING, March 15, 1875.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

TOWN OF READING

FOR

1874-75.

REPORT.

Report of the Trustees of the Public Library of the Town of Reading, for 1874-75.

At the annual town meeting, April 6, 1874, Messrs. F. H. Knight and Stephen Foster were re-elected trustees for three years. The terms of Messrs. E. Appleton and F. O. Dewey expire with the present year, necessitating an election at the approaching town meeting to fill the vacancies.

The condition of the Library is exhibited by the following abstract of the Report of the Librarian: —

Library re-opened Aug. 6, 1873, with volumes . . .	3,179
Donations during the year,	
E. Appleton,	2
Anna E. Appleton	13
Henry Deadman	3
State of Massachusetts	18
Seventh Day Adventist Tract Society	2
Other sources	22
	<hr/>
Added by purchase	60
	253
	<hr/>
	3,492
Deduct worn out volumes	50
	<hr/>
Volumes in library	3,442
Duplicates included	387
Number of volumes missing	1
Number of books taken out	15,834
Increase over 1873	1,163
Number of persons using library	1,148

The financial transactions pertaining to the Library for the year stand as follows:—

Received from town treasurer, appropriation	.	\$750 00
“ “ “ “ Dog tax, 1873	.	105 57
“ “ Librarian, fines, &c.	. . . .	56 00
		<hr/>
		\$911 57
Paid for books	. . . . .	\$351 97
for binding	. . . . .	118 90
for printing catalogues	. . . . .	85 00
for printing cards	. . . . .	6 00
salary of librarian	. . . . .	112 25
insurance	. . . . .	43 75
rent	. . . . .	150 00
ventilators	. . . . .	9 00
express	. . . . .	25
balance due treasurer, 1873-74	.	10 44
Balance on hand	. . . . .	24 01
		<hr/>
		\$911 57

Supplementary catalogues have been printed during the year, and can be obtained of the librarian, Miss Alice B. Temple.

The expenses for re-binding books have been greater than for the previous year. It is suggested that parents require their children to exercise due care in using the books while in their possession. More careful usage of the books we have will enable the trustees to purchase a greater number of new ones.

We would respectfully recommend that the town appropriate for the ensuing year a hundred and fifty dollars for rent of room, and five hundred dollars for library purposes; the last amount being one hundred dollars less than the amount raised last year.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD APPLETON,	} Trustees.
F. O. DEWEY,	
HIRAM BARRUS,	
WILLIAM PROCTOR,	
STEPHEN FOSTER,	
FRANCIS H. KNIGHT,	

READING, March 16, 1875.

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Paid for labor in the cemetery	\$297 45	
Expense of finishing and pointing wall on Main St.	156 50	
	<u> </u>	\$453 95
Drawn from the town appropriations	\$390 75	
Received from sale of lots	51 00	
Received from sale of cement	2 07	
	<u> </u>	443 82
Balance due the committee		<u>10 13</u>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div> F. O. DEWEY, F. H. KNIGHT, G. C. GLEASON, W. S. RICHARDSON, T. B. PRATT, S. BANCROFT, </div> <div style="font-size: 3em; line-height: 1;">}</div> <div>Committee.</div> </div>		

READING, March, 1875.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES ON SINKING FUND.

Amount assessed as per vote of the town	\$2,337 00	
collected	1,883 00	
uncollected	<u> </u>	\$454 00
paid on town debt		994 46
deposited in Reading Savings Bank		888 54
		<u> </u>
		\$2,337 00
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div> JAMES REID, JAMES A. BANCROFT, NATHAN P. PRATT, WILLIAM PROCTOR, W. J. WIGHTMAN, </div> <div style="font-size: 3em; line-height: 1;">}</div> <div>Trustees.</div> </div>		

REPORT OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

THE undersigned, road commissioners of the town of Reading, would respectfully submit the following Report:—

The appropriation made at the last annual town meeting for the repair of highways was much smaller than for two years previous; yet we think the condition of the highways generally have been improved. The larger part of the money appropriated has been expended on streets outside of the village. After a thorough examination of the hill on Main Street, near the residence of Mr. W. M. Knight, we thought that it would be for the interest of the town to have the grade of the same reduced. We have, therefore, reduced the grade, and placed a part of the expense to account of extra highway work, as we did not think it right to take the whole amount from the sum raised for repairs of highways.

The citizens in the south part of the town have generously contributed toward building a sidewalk on Main Street, which has been graded as far as the residence of Mr. Jerome Parker. We would recommend the town to raise the sum of three hundred dollars, for the purpose of extending the same as far as the railroad.

We have repaired the old guide-boards, and have put up several new ones. We have also put up at the corners of the most prominent streets the names of the several streets, as a matter of public convenience.

For expenditures see Selectmen's Account.

We would recommend the following appropriations for the ensuing year:—

Repair of highways	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$3,500 00
For flagstones	.	.	.	.	.	.	500 00
For reducing hill on Federal Street	.	.	.	.	.	.	200 00
For building Summer Street as per order of county commissioners	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,200 00

JAMES A. BANCROFT,	}	<i>Road Commissioners.</i>
CHARLES A. WESTON,		
HENRY S. LACLAIR,		

READING, March 1, 1875.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF READING

FOR

1874-75.

REPORT.

THE promotions made in all the schools last fall, generally relieved the pressure of numbers in many of the lower classes. The new curriculum has met with gratifying success; but, in order to receive the full benefit of the same, promotions from class to class will need to be made oftener: this is necessary to enable the pupil to graduate from the high school at the proper age. The new course in the high school is highly satisfactory, and meets not only the approval of teachers, but the wants of pupils. The exercises in Lyceum Hall, at the high-school graduation in June last, indicated the practical tendency of the course, and also the warm co-operation of the principal in carrying out the theory of the committee, — to make of our high school a primary one for citizenship. All the schools below, are, almost without exception, laboring to the same end; and, with the correction of some evils which exist, we see no reason why Reading should not hold a high rank in the State, so far as her schools are concerned. We would suggest, as one means to this end, that, instead of thirty-six weeks' schooling, the terms be increased to secure thirty-eight weeks in all.

We abandon the plan of previous years, of giving individual reports, and limit ourselves to general statements. Nothing has occurred, other than general causes, to disturb the usual work of our schools. The severe weather and the measles have combined to lower the average attendance, and consequently impair the usefulness of the schools during the winter.

Having nothing to condemn on the part of the teachers, we content ourselves with warm commendation of their efforts.

The schoolhouses are in fair condition, — as good as can be

expected, till the poorer ones are replaced by new buildings. In a short time, the village will require a commodious structure for the accommodation of the grammar and lower schools. With the privilege of double sessions, in case of emergency, the pupils can be convened for a year or two longer.

The furnaces in the high school building should be overhauled during the summer vacation.

In May last, the board voted to call Miss Wood's school the First Grammar, and Miss Knights's school the Second Grammar; and these have been the official designations of those schools since the close of the school-year in June last.

A doubt having been raised as to the legality of the vote of the town last April, in reducing the number of the committee, we are satisfied that a vacancy has existed all the year in our Board; and, in order that the matter may be properly adjusted, we would recommend that the Board consist of the full number of six. The terms of three of our members expire with this year: therefore if our recommendation is heeded, as we trust it will be, the town must choose four members on the Board for the ensuing year, — two for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. The only members of the present Board remaining are Mr. Barrus and Mr. Parker. In case the town should see fit to continue the number of the Board at six, we heartily commend the plan of apportioning the schools among the members: each member would then have two or three schools to attend to, and could visit them often enough to be thoroughly familiar with the work.

Unless the town authorizes the Board to appoint a superintendent, the above course seems the only one by which our schools can be visited as often as they should be.

By the time a member has spread himself over thirteen schools, his visits become so thin as to amount to but little.

If the Board is to be reduced, a superintendent is absolutely essential.

The generous action of the town at the last annual meeting enabled the committee to pay to the various teachers salaries more nearly adequate to the services rendered than heretofore.

It gives us great pleasure to report that we have carefully

applied the appropriation, and have over \$1,200 unexpended, as will be seen by following statement:—

Amount expended for teachers, care of rooms, and fuel	\$10,541 15
Appropriation	\$11,000 00
School fund	280 98
Received for tuition	30 00
	<hr/>
	11,310 98

Amount unexpended	<u>\$769 83</u>
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Appropriation for incidental school expenses	\$1,500 00
Expended	\$1,025 12
Unexpended	474 88
	<hr/>
	1,500 00 \$1,500 00

The total appropriation for schools last year was \$12,500.

We recommend for the support of the schools the coming year an appropriation of \$10,000 and the unexpended balance of \$769.83; for incidental expenses an appropriation of \$525.12 and the unexpended balance of \$474.88.

These recommendations call for new appropriations, \$2,000 less than those made last year.

The graduating exercises of the high school took place in Lyceum Hall, June 12, 1874, when diplomas were presented by Mr. Bancroft of the Board to the following graduates:—

MARION E. ANDREW.
NELLIE BANCROFT.
A. EVELYN BARROWS.
KATE L. BROWN.
SADIE L. DEWEY.
CHARLES P. FOOTE.
ELLA M. MELENDY.

OSCAR PERLEY FOOTE.
SADIE R. LINDSAY.
WILLIAM F. NICHOLS.
CORA M. PRESCOTT.
MARY L. STINCHFIELD.
LUCY WHELOCK.
LIZZIE E. WILKINS.

A beautiful original class poem, entitled the "Snow Angel," was recited by Miss Lucy Wheelock; while the sparkling wit of Miss Andrew in the Class Prophecy won generous applause.

The name of Mary L. Stinchfield must be added to the

increasing list of able valedictorians of the alumni, and her effort be classed among the most satisfactory.

In the Report for 1868, the name of Julia F. Weston was accidentally omitted from the list of graduates for the previous year.

Respectfully submitted.

CARROLL D. WRIGHT,	} <i>Committee.</i>
HIRAM BARRUS,	
WM. J. WIGHTMAN,	
WALTER S. PARKER,	
SOLON BANCROFT,	

READING, March 16, 1875.

Schools — 9000

Miscellaneous — 700

Roads — 3000

Summer St — 1200

Fire Department — 1700

Cemetery — 300

Interest — 4400

Decorative — 100

Town Expenses — 8000

\$ 28400

28700





